



NEWS & VIEWS

Be The Best You Can Be

Headteacher: Mr I Smyrk



Headteacher's Comments

Good afternoon everyone.

The end of another term is upon us and it has been great to have our school fully open. The students have settled in extremely well and staff are enjoying teaching face to face lessons after months of working on Teams. We do seem to be getting nearer to the end, however, we are not out of the woods yet so can I therefore remind us all to continue to abide by the COVID-19 restrictions as they stand during the break and use the home testing kits regularly.

Congratulations to the students below for being awarded the coveted Jack Petchey Award and good luck to everyone in our spring concert which is on at 6pm tomorrow night. I know it will be fantastic!

Have a very happy and safe Easter break and I look forward to seeing everyone back on Monday 12 April.



PE Department

For the past 20 years, the Jack Petchey Foundation have been celebrating the achievements of young people across London and Essex. In the Autumn term, three St Martin's students were awarded a Gold Achievement Award for their accomplishments and commitment to school. The three winners were:

- **Sam Johnson (Year 13)** - Sam is committed to theatre both in and out of school. He has still shown excellence in his academic studies achieving outstanding GCSE results. He is also predicted to get A's in his A-levels.
- **George Earthy (Year 11)** - George is dedicated to football at a professional and International level. He has balanced his academic GCSE requirements whilst making excellent progress with West Ham United including playing for senior age groups.
- **Lauren Wright (Year 11)** - Lauren has maintained the highest standard of work throughout lockdown as well as contributions to the yearbook and prom committee. She liaises with staff with great maturity to provide student feedback in order to make improvements for the year group and for the wider school community.

Well done to these worthy winners!



Music Department

Virtual Spring Concert

Back at the beginning of January, we set out on a quest to prove the music never stops at St Martin's, despite the difficult circumstances we were all facing. Many pocket concerts, virtual performances, watch-alongs and student masterclasses later, I think it is safe to say we have been successful. All of our weekly pocket concerts from the second lockdown are now available to watch on our school website at the following link:

<https://www.stmartins.essex.sch.uk/news/?pid=178&nid=1&storyid=103>

However, the culmination of these activities premieres tonight – the Virtual Spring Concert. Featuring a huge number of our gifted musicians, we are extremely proud of how our musicians have risen to the challenge in such testing times, and are very grateful that the power of technology is enabling us to share their talent with you. Make sure to tune in Friday at 6pm: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uhvXF41Fe0>



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Executive Headteacher: Mr R Duff

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